

much when it was pressed. Forty minims of laudanum were given, and having oiled my right hand, I proceeded to reduce it, which, with some little trouble, I succeeded in doing, by pressure at first upwards and backwards, and then upwards and forwards in the axes of the pelvis, when I found it went up suddenly, and on following it into the ureter, I had the gratification to find that the uterus contracted firmly upon my hand. There was no bleeding of any consequence afterwards, and by continuing the use of the stimulants, she gradually revived. This lady continued in a very delicate state for some time, but eventually recovered perfectly.

"I should state that the gentleman in attendance positively assured me that undue force had not been applied to the cord.

"This case, I think, a very instructive one, well calculated to show the necessity for a vaginal examination, if the slightest doubt exists. It is a fortunate circumstance that this formidable disease occurs so seldom, this being the first case I have ever had, although there have been upwards of fifteen hundred women delivered since I became master of the hospital, and on referring to the registry, I cannot find an account of one out of nearly two thousand delivered prior to that period."

83. *Recovery from a severe injury to the Gravid Uterus.*—The wife of a Madras sepoy, in the last stage of pregnancy, was riding on a bullock, when the animal stumbled and fell, by which she was thrown forward, and pitched on one of the horns of the bullock, which entered about an inch above the os pubis, penetrating into the cavity of the womb. The wound was about two inches long, through which the hand of a child protruded, and from which there was slight hemorrhage. Labour was induced *per vias naturales*, and a full-sized child was born, but did not survive its birth. It had been injured by the horn on its neck and shoulder. On expulsion of the contents of the womb, considerable protrusion of the intestines took place, but they were easily and speedily returned to the abdomen, and the usual means, such as stitches, sticking-plaster, compress and bandage, applied to prevent their escape. On the appearance of inflammatory symptoms, recourse was had to the application of twenty leeches, the administration of castor oil, and employment of fomentations, which quickly subdued the rising inflammation. Next day there was not a bad symptom, and she rapidly recovered, with scarcely any other feeling than is common to women after the ordinary process of delivery.—*London Med. Gaz.*, October, 1846, from *India Journ. Med. and Phys. Sc.*

84. *Composition of Kyesteine.*—Dr. ZIMMERMAN, in a paper, in *Casper's Wochenschrift*, (May 30, and June 6, 1846,) on the peculiarities of the urine in pregnant women, states that the substance hitherto described as kyesteine, and about which there has been so much discussion of late, consists almost entirely of the infusoria termed vibrions. These animalcules, he states, are first formed in the lower layers of the urine, which they render turbid; they then rise in heaps to the surface, where they form, together with large crystals of ammonio-phosphate of magnesia, and amorphous phosphate of lime and urate of ammonia, the well-known yellowish-white layer which so commonly occurs on the urine of pregnant women. These vibrions were also observed very largely by Simon in portions of kyesteine which he examined.*—*London Med. Gaz.*, Sept., 1846.

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85. *Remarkable Monster.*—M. VELPEAU presented to the Academy of Sciences, in Paris, May 25th, 1846, in behalf of Dr. GORRE, physician at Boulogne, the following notice of a monstrous child.

It was born at Quinta de Corveiros, in the kingdom of the Algarves, on the 5th of September, 1845. The parents are perfectly well-formed and in good health. The mother, aged twenty-two years, had previously given birth to two well-formed

* Animal Chemistry, Dr. Day's translation, vol. ii. p. 331.

children, and during her pregnancy with this, had suffered no injury, nor experienced any violent mental uneasiness; the delivery also was not painful, and was accomplished at the regular period of nine months.

The child, now in its eighth month, is in perfect health. Its head, trunk and arms are perfectly natural, and well developed. But it has a third leg proceeding from behind directly on the median line, so that it is scarcely seen, when the child lays on its back. This supernumerary member is of equal length with the others and the foot is furnished with ten toes.

In front, there is a double penis, separated at their bases about four centimetres, (about an inch and a half.) There is a double scrotum corresponding, each of which contains a single testicle. Each penis has its urethral canal, but these would seem to communicate with but one bladder; at all events, when urine is discharged, it proceeds in equal quantity from both orifices.—*Comptes Rendus*.

Should this child survive, will the French law allow him to marry? As germane to this subject, allow me to ask whether you have not a correspondent in North Carolina, who can verify the statement made some time since in the newspapers, that the Siamese twins are married? T. R. B.

86. *Antimony in the Living Organs*.—In a memoir presented by M. MILLON to the Academy of Sciences, June 22, 1846, on this subject, he deduces as the result of his experiments, the following conclusions:

When antimony penetrates simultaneously all the important organs, the lungs, the brain, the intestinal coats, the subject yields to the intoxication, and seems to die in every part at the same time, the tissues being reduced to an extreme state of emaciation.

If it be concentrated in the brain, the result is equally fatal, but death occurs in the midst of a train of nervous symptoms, which indicate the principal seat of the disease.

On the contrary, when it reaches organs less sensible, or tissues of inferior organization, or the cellular or osseous systems, and its effects disappear, we have then reason to believe in its elimination or total removal.

Should not this view of antimonial intoxication lead us to suspect analogous conditions in diseases from the introduction of lead? Certain organs escape its poisonous effects; and may not the concentration of symptoms in the abdomen, the nervous system and the extremities, indicate that the lead occupies these correspondent parts?

At all events, this mode of examination may aid in developing the nature of those affections in which the presence of poisonous substances is suspected, rather than demonstrated.

The enormous development of the liver, following after the administration of an emetic, is also a fact which should not pass unnoticed. Percussion should be applied in order to ascertain whether in man the frequent administration of antimony is coincident with a rapid enlargement of that organ.—*Comptes Rendus*.

T. R. B.

87. *Feigned Diseases*.—DR. FERGUSSON, in his "*Notes and Recollections of a Professional Life*," speaking of the late war between England and France, says, "artificial ulcers of the legs were all but universal amongst young recruits, and spurious ophthalmia was organized in conspiracy so complicated and extended, that at one time it threatened seriously to affect the general efficiency of the forces, and was in every respect so alarming that the then military authorities durst not expose its naked features to the world. These are the results and ever will be the results, whilst human nature is constituted as it is, of service for life."—*Blackwood's Magazine*, August, 1846.

T. R. B.

88. *Arsenic*.—*How long before its symptoms appear?*—Two bottles of wine were left at a house in Paris, apparently as a present, but being unaccompanied by any message, the wife became suspicious that they had been sent with an evil intent. The husband, however, opened one of them and poured out a quarter of a glassful, which he drank. Finding it quite bitter, he, after a single swallow, rejected the rest. His wife also tasted a very small portion. During the night (three